

VZCZCXRO9960  
PP RUEHPA  
DE RUEHDK #0082 0121549  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 121549Z JAN 06  
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3904  
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0678

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 000082

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/W, AF/PDPA, AF/RSA, DRL/PHD AND INR/AA  
LONDON FOR POL - AFRICA WATCHER  
PARIS FOR POL - AFRICA WATCHER D'ELIA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/12/2016  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PINS](#) [PHUM](#) [GA](#) [SG](#)  
SUBJECT: GAMBIAN-SENEGALESE RELATIONS DEFINITELY ON THE  
MEND; GOTG AND GOS WORKING TOGETHER ON CASAMANCE

REF: A. BANJUL 0024 AND PREVIOUS  
[1](#)B. DAKAR 0043  
[1](#)C. 05 DAKAR 2933

Classified By: CDA ROBERT P. JACKSON FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

[1](#)1. (C) On January 4, Prime Minister Macky Sall told Charge that the GOS was very pleased by his most recent visit to The Gambia. Sall believes that relations are back on a sound footing.

[1](#)2. (C) In addition to the proposed bridge and related transportation issues, the Gambian Government,s decision to turn Movement of Democratic Forces of the Casamance (MFDC) military leader Kamoughe Diatta over to Senegal on January 7 is significant. The Gambian Government had detained Diatta since October )- reportedly at the Senegalese Government,s request. With a bit of nudging from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the GOS has released Diatta to the MFDC,s political leaders. GOS officials hope that the MFDC can build upon the momentum from the Sao Domingos meeting, with Diatta helping to unite the fractious MFDC and prepare its negotiating position for the next round of peace talks.

[1](#)3. (U) Diatta,s transfer and release follows the Janaury 6 decision to dismiss all charges against Sud Communications for its October 17 broadcast and publication of Ibrahima Gassama,s interview with Diatta,s rival, Salif Sadio. Sadio was convicted in abstentia and sentenced to five years in prison and a fine equivalent to USD 1,870.

[1](#)4. (C) COMMENT: The GOS' decision to dismiss the charges against the Sud Communications, which was predicted by Ambassador Absa Diallo (Ref C), may reflect an effort to improve its somewhat tarnished human rights record in 2006.  
END COMMENT.  
JACKSON